

D) Remarks

In the above-mentioned office action, the Examiner states (in part):

Claim Objections

Claims 1-10 are objected to because of the following informalities:

In claim 1 line 17, "the" should be inserted before the second instance of "first".

In claim 1 line 18, "the" should be inserted before "second".

In claim 1 line 18, "the" should be inserted before "first".

In claim 1 line 19, "the" should be inserted before "second".

In claim 7 line 2, "the conical face" lacks antecedent basis.

In claim 9 line 2, "the first" should be "a first".

In claim 9 line 4, "the second" should be "a second".

In claim 10 line 1, "each" should be inserted before "said".

Appropriate correction is required.

The Examiner also states that claims 1-10 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the above noted objections.

Applicant's Comments re Claim Objections

In response, applicant has amended claims 1, 7, 9 and 10 as presented in "B) Amendments to the Claims" above. Applicant's amended claims 1, 9 and 10 are each corrected exactly as requested by the Examiner. Applicant's amended claim 7 is amended to replace the phrase "conical face" by the phrase "conical-section annular face". By this amendment, claim 7 finds antecedent basis in the

term "conical-section annular face" that appears in claim 4. Claims 1-10, as amended, are now believed to be in condition for allowance.

In the above-mentioned office action, the Examiner states (in part):

Drawings

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR I .84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 86. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Applicant's Comments re Drawings

Applicant acknowledges that reference sign 86 is mentioned in the description twice in the first full paragraph on page 10 of the application as filed, and is not found in any of the drawings. Applicant further notes that reference signs 87, 88 and 89 are also mentioned in the description and are not found in any of the drawings.

The two occurrences of "mandrel 86" in the description constitute typographical errors. They are amended above to read "mandrel 83". The occurrence of "cable 87" is also a typographical error. It is amended above to read "cable 84". Applicant notes that mandrel 83 and cable 84 are both mentioned in the first full paragraph on page 10 of the application and are both identified in FIG. 8. Therefore, these amendments add no new matter.

Applicant respectfully requests that the specification be amended as presented under C "Amendments to the Specification" above.

Missing reference signs 88 and 89 are added to FIG. 8, as marked on the enclosed informal drawing "replacement sheet" 3/9 enclosed herewith. First and second sealing faces 88 and 89 are both mentioned in the first full paragraph on page 10 of the application. Therefore, these corrections add no new matter.

Applicant respectfully requests that the drawing correction indicated by informal drawing "replacement sheet" 3 of 9 be accepted.

Formal drawings, with drawing correction indicated by informal drawing "replacement sheet" 3 of 9 entered, will be provided on receipt of Notice of Allowance.

SUMMARY

It is believed that the application is now in condition for allowance with claims 1-10. Consideration of the application and issuance of a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

It is believed that no extension of time is required. However, this conditional petition for extension of time is being made to provide for the possibility that the need for a petition for an extension of time has been overlooked. If additional fees are required for the timely consideration of this application, please charge deposit account no. 12-0914.

Respectfully submitted,



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REPLACEMENT SHEET

3/9

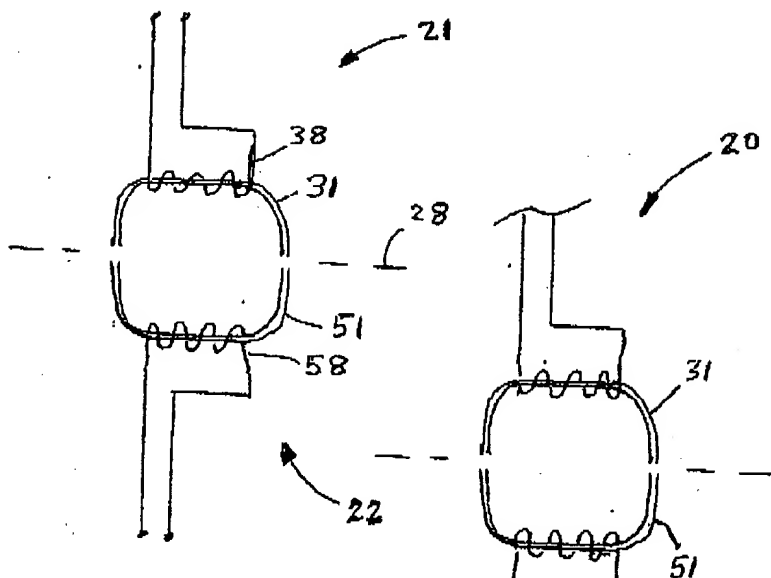


FIG. 6

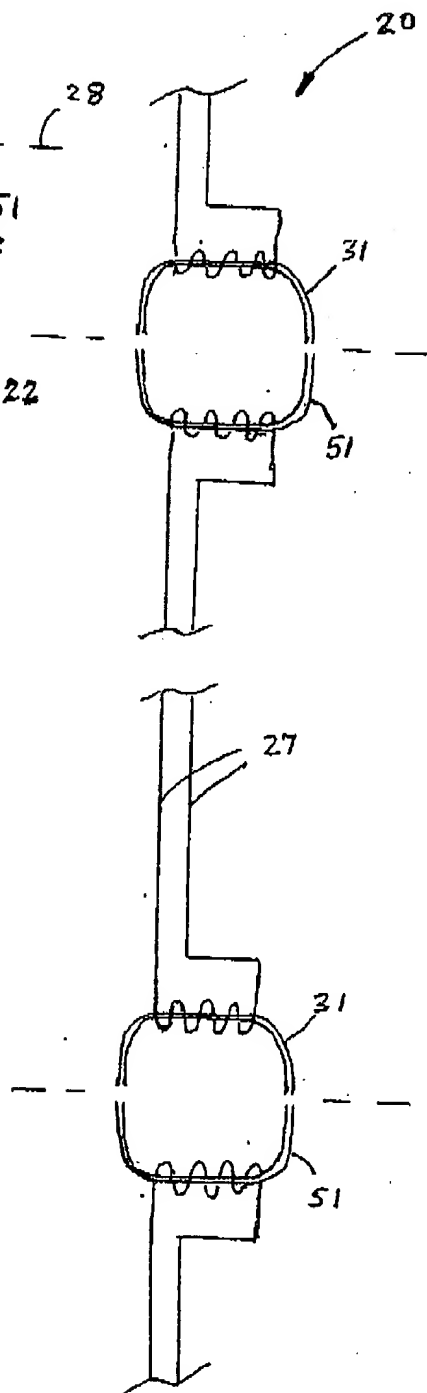


FIG. 7

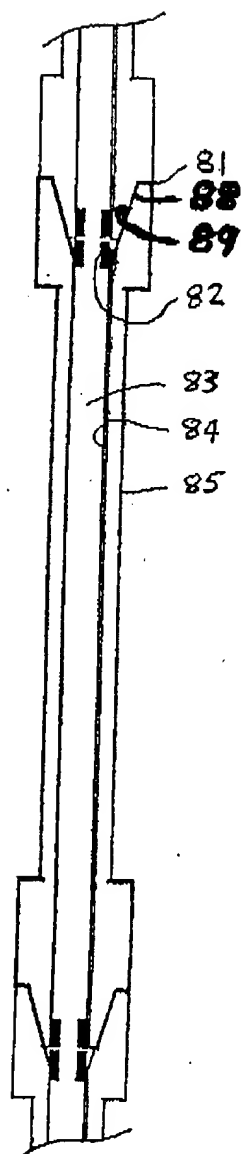


FIG. 8